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- b. The school is commanded by General Ruppel, a pilot officer who fought first in the RAF and later in the corps commanded by General Svoboda in the USSR. Ruppel is a Communist. His deputy is Col. Frantisek Hurych, also a Communist.
- c. The students, numbering about 200, are divided into groups and squadrons. Each group is composed of three squadrons. The first school squadron is commanded by Staff Captain Sachl, the second by Captain Josef Audrnicky, and the third by Staff Captain Jan Turek.
- d. In the first year instruction is given in the Zlin 281-C6 trainer. There is a total of 40 aircraft (formerly trainees received training in Bucker CA's with a Hirth engine and C 104's with a Walther Minor engine. These planes numbering 20 remain at Hradec Kralov unused and will probably be used by flying clubs). The second year's training is in Arado C2 trainers with 420 hp Argus engines; there are 40 of these, of which 10 are grounded. Besides these there are on the field 3 Siebels, 2 CAPs, and 5 Piper Cubs, which are used by the instructors. All these planes are kept in four hangars; the fifth hangar to the north of the field belongs to the local flying club.
- e. The field at Pardubice is used for the third year of the Air Academy for students specializing in fighters (at present 36 students). There are 40 ME-109's (S-199) of which 35 are one-seaters, 10 Arado C2's, 3 Zlin 282 C6's, 1 Cap, 2 Piper Cubs, and 15 to 20 Siebel C3's and C3b's.
- f. Radar experiments are being conducted on the Chrudin field. A course for radio telegraphers is given here. It is interesting to note that the VTU, Military and Aeronautical Research Institute, is now conducting experiments in radar installations in the Siebel aircraft. The Institute is still in the experimental stage.

### 3. Miscellaneous Aeronautical Information

- a. The Czech aircraft factories of Praha-Letnany have just received an order to manufacture 4,200 Yak planes for 1950. These factories also make the spare parts for these craft, which are delivered to the USSR. The designing offices are extremely closely guarded. Six MVD men have been assigned to guard the factory. Military guard is secured by Soviet Air Force Captain Priznov.
- b. Representative Jura of the Czech Trade Union Organization and the Transportation Commission of the Communist Party have attempted to eliminate General Stanovsky, Director of Aviation in the Ministry of Transportation, but the latter was saved by the intervention of Gottwald and the military.
- c. Civilian and military experts and the Minister of Transportation are in disagreement over the construction of the Cernovice-Slatina-Turany airfield (Brno area). There is also a struggle going on between the Czechoslovak Airlines (CSA) and Dr. Holy.\* Upon the intervention of Dr. Pohl of the Economic Section of the Office of President Gottwald, of Representative Jura of the trade union, and of several Moravian technicians, General Kubita, Director of the CSA, was dismissed from his post in spite of the support of the military (General Rudin and General Vicherek).
- d. The airfield at Zlin is the object of a five-year plan which anticipates a large development. The plan includes the building of a runway (1,750 m long and 60 m wide) in 1950.

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9. A budget of seven billion Kcs is expected for the development of civil aviation during the Five-Year Plan.

25X1  Comment: Ex-director of BATA, who is now Deputy Minister of Industry.

Encls: 1 sketch of military airfield at Brno.

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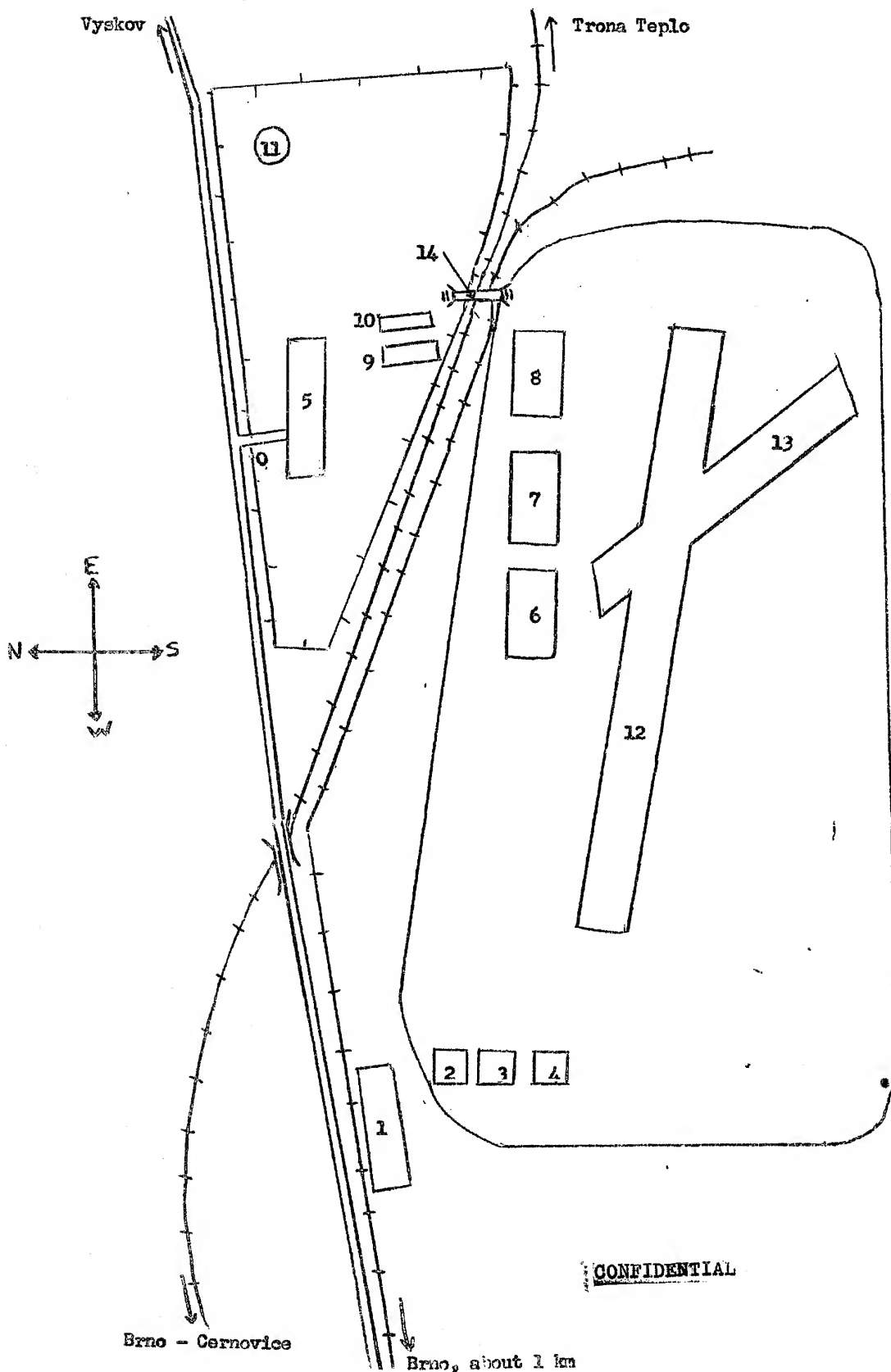
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
ATTACHMENT I

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CONFIDENTIAL

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